GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:392
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2005
FAKE LPG CYLINDERS
Agarwal Shri Dhirendra;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fake LPG cylinders are being used in the country ;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ;

(c) the number of incidents caused by fake LPG cylinders reported during the last three years, State-wise ;

(d) the provisions for taking action in this regard ; and

(e) the number of agency owners held for their involvement in the fake LPG cylinders trade during the last three years ?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 392 BY SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA AND DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST APRIL, 2005 REGARDING FAKE LPG CYLINDERS.

(a) to (e) : Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are procuring LPG cylinders from cylinder manufacturers who are approved by the Oil Industry Technical Committee (OITC) and have valid manufacturing licences from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and the Chief Controller of Explosives (CCOE). Strict control is exercised by BIS over the manufacturing process. LPG cylinders procured by OMCs meet the required quality standards.

LPG cylinders received from distributors/ transporters at the bottling plants are mandatorily checked for their quality and genuineness to avoid the entry of fake and outlived cylinders in circulation. On detection of sub-standard /spurious cylinders, these are confiscated and thereafter de-shaped / crushed to prevent their re-entry into circulation.

Apart from the legal action, which could be taken against any supplier of spurious LPG equipment, in case any distributor is found in possession of spurious equipment or inducts such equipment in the distribution system, Marketing Discipline Guidelines, provide interalia, for confiscation of equipment, imposition of fine and recovery at penal rates for the 1st and 2nd offences and termination of distributorship in the event of a 3rd offence.

OMCs have neither reported any incident of accident caused due to fake cylinders supplied by their distributors during the last 3 years nor has any distributor been found involved in the fake LPG cylinders trade during this period.